

*Erismatura australis*—some of these rare birds, at present the rarest of all our Australian ducks, have lately been obtained for the sum of 5s. per pair.

Since writing the above, the following species have occurred from N. S. Wales :—*Dendrocygna vagans*, and *Anseranus melanoleuca*.

Mr. Macleay also informs me that one of his taxidermists obtained a fine pair of Blue-billed Ducks, *Erismatura australis*, which had been sent from the Melbourne district among other game birds, and purchased of a poulterer in Sydney.

*Erismatura australis* was formerly supposed to be confined to the Lakes and Swamps of West Australia, but several pairs have been lately obtained in the Melbourne markets.

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On some new forms of Arachnidæ, by H. H. B. BRADLEY, Esq.

SALTICUS MACLEAYANUS, N.S.—PLATE II.

Adult.—Total length, 3 lines ; to extremity of falces,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  lines.

*Cephalothorax* elongate ; capul divided from the thorax by a strong constriction, leaving the former nearly square ; thorax not as high as caput, oval, highest in front, arched and marked by furrows corresponding to the legs ; colour black, with minute white shining hairs, particularly in the centre of the cephalothorax, thus giving the appearance of a longitudinal white band.

*Eyes* in three rows ; centre anterior eyes very large ; lateral anterior eyes and eyes of third line about equal in size (half as large as central anterior eyes), and placed at the four corners of the square ; eyes of the middle row, excessively minute, are as near to the posterior as to the anterior lateral eyes.

*Legs* rather long, slender, with a few minute white hairs ; relative length 4, 1, 2, 3, with but little difference between the 4th and 1st and the 2nd and 3rd pairs respectively ; color—first pair dark reddish brown, except the genual and coxal, which are yellow ; second pair light yellow, the coxal and exinqual and the

underside of the femoral, genual, and tibial, is dark reddish brown ; third pair dark reddish brown, except the tarsi, which are light yellow ; fourth pair dark reddish brown, except exinguinal and extreme tip of tarsi, which are light yellow ; in all legs the respective lengths of the femoral, tibial, and metatarsal-cum-tarsal are nearly equal.

*Pulpi* about as long as falces ; radial joint twice as long as cubital, enlarging gradually towards the extremity, and having a sharp double-curved corneous projection on its outer extremity ; digital twice as long as radial, oval ; palpal organs small, consisting of a simple lobe, with a small white spiral spine coiled one and a half times round the lobe ; extremity hairy.

*Maxille* slightly enlarged at the extremities, which are divergent and closely covered on the inner side with hairs which curve inwards.

*Labium*. oblong, rounded at the apex.

*Falces* very prominent, long, strong, and massive ; not quite as long as cephalothorax ; inner face flat, outer face slightly rounded ; extremities straight, and not rounded on either side ; above nearly flat for two-thirds of their length, when they slope gradually towards the extremities ; on the outer side, at about one-third of their length from their insertion, is a strong tooth, directed upwards and sidwards ; there is also a strong tooth on the inner extremity ; viewed from below, the falces seem to have a longitudinal furrow ; at the extremity and on the lower edge of this furrow are five strong teeth, about which are some long fine hairs ; colour silvery for two-thirds of the length, and then dark brown, with a few minute hairs.

*Fangs* as long as falces, straight, almost the entire length, with a slight curve or hook at the extremity ; slightly thickest at the insertion, and tapering very gradually to the extremity, and without any serration ; colour dark brown for three-fourths their length, then light reddish yellow.

*Abdomen* joined to cephalothorax by a very short cylindrical pedicle ; oval, slightly widening at about one-third of its length :

color dark brown, covered with minute grey hairs; the abdomen comes up to the cephalothorax in such a way that the pedicle is not seen.

A single specimen of this species from Endeavour River, Queensland, in the Macleay Museum, was collected as an ant, and the mistake was not discovered until the insect came into the hands of its present possessor. This species is peculiarly interesting, as coming close to the Ceylon species—*S. bicurvatus* and *S. plataleoides*—described by the Rev. O. P. Cambridge in the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* for January, 1860, and it is another instance of close similarity in the araneides from Ceylon and Northern Australia. In the plate the insect is represented at four times its actual size.

#### GERROSOMA NOV. GENUS. *a*

*Cephalothorax* entirely hidden by the projection of the front part of the abdomen; cephalic part pointed, elevated, and terminating in a tubercle which carries six eyes.

*Eyes* eight, unequal, round; six, looking forward, placed in two rows on the tubercle, two in the upper, and four in the lower row; the four centre eyes forming a trapezium, widest at the upper part; anterior intermediate eyes largest; laterals very near to these and smallest; the other two eyes, placed in the angles of the cephalothorax, directed laterally.

*Maxille* broad, long, and diverging, rounded at the extremities.

*Labium* much broader than long, convex, and rounded at the anterior margin.

*Legs* of two first pairs long, of two hinder pairs short, strong; 1st and 2nd equal 4 and 5.

*Sternum* oval.

*Falces* moderately long, strong, and narrower towards the extremities.

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*a* Γερρον—the oblong shield of the Persians; Σωμα—body.

*Abdomen* much longer than broad, and projecting in such a way as completely to hide the caput.

## GERROSOMA PAPENSE, N.S.

*Maxille labium*, *sternum*, and *cephalothorax* light reddish yellow; *cephalothorax* 004 m. long, .003 in. broad, moderately high and arched; the *caput* marked by a very distinct furrow; there is also a longitudinal furrow running from the back of the caput; rising out of the front part is a tubercle .001 m. high, bearing six *eyes*; these are placed in two lines; the lower, consisting of four eyes, is curved downwards; two centre eyes largest; the eyes of the upper line are half the size of the anterior intermediate eyes, and are placed twice their own diameter apart, and nearly as far above the anterior intermediate eyes; anterior laterals smallest, and nearly touching the anterior intermediates; the tubercle is narrowest at the base (where it is furnished with short hairs), and about as broad as high; the other two eyes are placed in the angles of the cephalothorax, and are directed laterally; all eyes round.

*Maxilla* about twice as long as broad, rounded at the apex, diverge, and are well furnished on the inner edge with short curved hairs.

*Labium* broader than long.

*Falces* long and strong, tapering slightly, and furnished with a short strong tooth on the inner side; light yellowish red at the insertion, reddish black at the extremity.

*Fangs* short and strong, reddish black.

*Sternum* heart shaped, a little longer than broad.

*Palpi* reddish, broad, strong, and well furnished with hairs.

*Legs* reddish brown, with darker spots, and moderately furnished with grey hairs; 1 and 2 pairs equal 017 m., 4th pair 614 m., 3rd pair 01 m.

*Abdomen* .012 m. long, and in the broadest part (two-thirds of its length) 0055 m. broad; projecting past the cephalothorax in such a way as completely to conceal it when looked at from above;

of a dark reddish brown with grey markings; furnished in front with four short pointed tubercles; marked at the posterior part with transverse furrows; on the underside of the same colour, and with a strong triangular pointed ovipositor at the epigyne.

One female specimen from Hall Sound, New Guinea, among the insects collected in the Chevert expedition. I know nothing of its habits, and propose to place the genus provisionally among the Ruditelariæ.

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MONDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 1876.

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WILLIAM MACLEAY, President, in the Chair.

The following donations were announced :—

Descriptions of new species of Shells from Queensland, with colored Plates—2 pamphlets originally published in the Zool. Soc. Proceedings of December, 1874, and January, 1875—by the author, JOHN BRAZIER, C.M.Z.S.

The following papers were read :—

Shells collected during the Chevert Expedition. By JOHN BRAZIER, C.M.Z.S.

FAMILY MARGINELLIDÆ.

1.—MARGINELLA GUTTULA.

*Marginella guttula*, Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. 20, sp. 101.

*Hab.* Cape Grenville, North-East Coast of Australia, 20 fathoms; Cape York, North Australia, 5, 11 fathoms, sandy mud bottom; Darnley Island, Torres Straits, 10, 20, 30 fathoms, sandy bottom.

This species is allied to *Marginella attenuata*, Reeve, found in Port Jackson (Brazier).

2.—MARGINELLA SP. ?

*Hab.* York Island, Torres Straits, 12 fathoms, mud bottom. One specimen obtained dead somewhat allied to *Marginella guttula*, Reeve.